

**CONNECTICUT MARITIME COMMISSION (CTMC)**  
**REPORT OF MEETING (Mtg. #08-9)**  
**17 September 2008**

**Location of Meeting:** Department of Transportation Building  
Newington, CT

**Attendance:**

**Commissioners**

***Present***

Chuck Beck (for Commissioner Marie)  
Vincent Cashin  
Sue Decina (for Commissioner McDonald)  
Tom Dubno  
Judy Gott  
G.L. "Doc" Gunther  
John Johnson  
Joseph P. Maco (for TSB Chair Kelleher)  
Larry Miller  
Joe Riccio  
George Wisker (for Commissioner McCarthy)

***Absent***

Robert Genuario  
David Shuda  
Martin Toyen  
John Wronowski

**Guests**

Duncan Ayr	Jim Bajek	Keith Basilici	Jay Borkland	Jenny Contois	John Crowther
Mark Daily	Allison Dodge	Norm Farris	Pete Fox	David Lis	Mike Ludwig
Kevin Oditt	Dave Rossiter	Joe Salvatore	Kristen Schroeder		Judi Sheiffele
Bill Spicer	Alan Stevens	Fred Walters	Kurt Walton		

**I. Call to Order:**

- The Vice-Chair, Joe Riccio, opened the meeting at 9:33 AM. A quorum of 11 was present.

**II. Review of Meeting Minutes:**

- The minutes of the 16 July 2008 meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Judy Gott and seconded by George Wisker to approve. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**III Discussion Open to Public**

- Bill Spicer reminded all of the Cadmium issue associated with CT waters. He reported that the CT Maritime Trade Association has provided documentation to the CT DEP showing that the base levels being used as "background levels incorrect. Mr Spicer also stated that with respect to the Long Island Sound Dredge Material Management Plan (LIS DMMP) it was his opinion that the waters off of southeastern CT were covered under 404 not 103 regulations, thus not part of Ambro nor the LIS DMMP. Lastly, Mr Spicer inquired of non-Navy dredging projects being allowed to "buy into" the creation of the Contained Aquatic Disposal (CAD) cell being planned buy the Navy for their own dredging project. Unfortunately, the only Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) representative present was Dr. C. Norman Farris. Dr Farris' expertise was not in the CAD cell area so he could not provide an answer. It was the opinion of others present that the Navy would most likely not entertain such a request. Joe Maco stated that such an arrangement was made in the Providence River. In response it was stated that the arrangement in Providence was slightly different. It was sponsored by the ACOE not the Navy and the accommodation was initiated prior to the design phase. The Navy CAD cell in New London is well past the design phase.

#### IV Old Business:

- Dredging Update
  - North Cove Dredging Project – Joe Salvatore reported that the bids were in on the North Cove dredging project. The low bidder was Burnham Associates at a cost of \$4.058338M which is less than the \$4.33M appropriated by Congress. The contract has been signed. The project is expected to start in mid-October. The last 75K cu yds of material will be left until later to be able to provide the capping material for the Norwalk project.
  - The bids are in on the Norwalk dredging project. The ACOE put the bid solicitation out for two different scenarios: a reduced scope and full scope dredge. Cashman is the apparent low bidder for both scenarios at \$4.5863M for the reduced scope and \$7.111M for the full scope. Congress appropriated \$5.609M for the project. It is expected that the contract will be signed by the end of September with dredging starting the first week in November. It is possible that the balance between the \$5.609 and the \$4.5863 can be used to expand the reduced scope.
  - It was stated that the Rocky Hill-Glastonbury Ferry dredging and slip improvement project bid was in. Mohawk is the apparent low bidder at \$ 1.55M. The contract is in the review/signature stage. Work should begin in Nov 2007.
  - DMMP - Joe Salvatore provided an update on the Long Island Sound Dredge Material Management Plan (LIS DMMP). The questionnaires were distributed but the return rate has been low (237 of 917). Battelle, the contractor to the ACOE has determined that some of the 917 questionnaires distributed were duplicates which could affect the return rate.
  - Joe Salvatore stated that the Regional Dredge Team, also known as the Sudbury Group, had met in May and that minutes of the meeting were included in the handouts.
  - Chuck Beck reported on the meeting held on 10 September 2008 with staff representatives of the CT Congressional Delegation (CTCODEL). Five of the seven congressional staffs were in attendance as were Marty Toyen, Joe Riccio, Mark Daley, Chuck Beck, Joe Salvatore and George Wisker. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the federal funding needs for CT dredging related projects for FY 2009. The meeting was described as very productive. The CTCODEL staff provided information on the dubious nature of the FY 2009 federal budget; could be a series of continuing resolutions. The use of funds already available in the Harbor Maintenance Tax Fund was discussed. A draft letter intended to be sent from the CTMC to the CTCODEL requesting federal appropriations for specific CT projects was reviewed at the CTCODEL staff meeting. Upon review of the draft letter by the CTMC, a motion was made by Chuck Beck to approve/send the letter. The motion was seconded by John Johnson and after additional discussion was passed by a unanimous vote.
  - Chuck Beck stated that some dredging projects, mostly associated with the State Pier facility, were included in the Bureau of Aviation and Ports request for the FY 2010-2011 biennial budget. He stressed that it was only a request at this stage.
- Prioritization of Projects – An outline of the methodology to be used to prioritize dredging requests that was approved at a previous CTMC meeting was provided in the handouts.
- CDR Kevin Oditt of Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound (CGSECLIS) provided an update on the Long Island Sound Area Maritime Security Committee (LIS AMSC). He provided information about a meeting to be held on 30 September 2008 at the Mashantucket-Pequot Research Center and Museum and invited all to attend. Chuck Beck stated that he would distribute the information electronically to the CTMC distribution list. CDR Oditt provided an update on the Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC) card program. All

licensed mariners must obtain their TWIC card NLT 15 April 2009. All facilities within CGSECLIS had to be TWIC compliant by 1 December 2008. A side conversation took place regarding a CTMC letter to the CT Attorney General requesting a determination of the Eastern boundary of Long Island Sound. A motion was made by Vin Cashin to send a follow-up inquiry. The motion was seconded by Doc Gunther and approved with 9 yeas, no nays and 2 abstentions.

- CDR Oditt provided an update on the Long Island Sound Harbor Safety Committee (LIS HSC). He discussed the activities of the heavy weather advisory group that has been established as a sub-committee to the LIS HSC. A heavy weather plan previously drafted was reviewed/up-dated and will be posted soon on CG Sector LIS web page. The next meeting of the LIS HSC will be in November.

#### **V New Business:**

- Proposed Legislation – Chuck Beck stated that upon reviewing the statutes that created the CTMC and the CT Pilot Commission (CPC) he noted a disparity in the manner in which members were appointed. The CPC legislation ties the background of an appointee to the appointer. The CTMC legislation does not. As a discussion tool, he presented a draft change to the CTMC statute that would bring manner of appointing members to the CPC and CTMC into parity. The concept was to try to insure the diverse backgrounds of appointed members generally detailed in the statute. There was considerable discussion on whether or not the change was necessary. Some thought that the legislators would not want to be tied to a specific type of person. Others thought that the appointing authorities valued the CTMC enough to do what is right. Thus, most of the discussion was against the proposal despite an example given concerning the deficiency in background of a former CTMC appointee.

The discussion turned to the perceived need to incorporate a meeting attendance requirement. The idea of having the CTMC Chairman send a letter to an appointing authority whenever an appointed or designated member failed to participate was discussed. It was pointed out that such a letter had been sent recently concerning one of the state agency designees only to receive a response indicating that the state agency had never appointed a designee. Vin Cashin moved to table the discussion on the legislative change to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Judy Gott. There was some discussion about putting the attendance issue on the next agenda, empowering the Chairman to use the telephone to place truants on report with their appointing authority. A reference to the CTMC getting involved in licensing some new marine pilots was made by Doc Gunther but was deflected as the purview of the CT Pilot Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

- Silent Inspector – Dr. C. Norman Farris of the Army Corps of Engineers provided a power point presentation on a new automated program to track the exact location of materials when they are disposed in the open water. The Silent Inspector program incorporates the use of GPS on dredge scows, computer software and a national data base to track where materials are actually deposited. The program is being driven by federal mandate. The present implementation plan involved a public notice in June 2008, Training and Certification during July through September, a second public notice in the fall of 2008 and full implementation on 1 January 2009. Dredging project holding permits do not have to use the Silent Inspector technology but can do so voluntarily. Permits issued for projects after 31 December 2008 will not have a choice. Additional information can be obtained at the following web site: <http://si.usace.army.mil>.
- Connecticut Maritime Coalition Economic Impact Study – John Crowther and David Lis provided a power point presentation on the study their company (APEX) had been hired to conduct by the CT Maritime Coalition. The cost of the study is being funded by the CMC with assistance from DECD. The purpose of the study is to determine/document the economic,

safety and security impacts to CT if the state's channels and harbors are not maintenance dredged. The methodology is primarily interviews, data collection and modeling. The draft outline of the study is due in October 2008. A draft report is due to the CMC in January 2009 with the final report due in March 2009.

- Anchorage Areas and Littering Zones - LCDR Kristen Schroeder provided a brief presentation on the latest version of an attempt to codify anchorage areas and littering zones in Long Island Sound. A few minor changes have been made since the presentation of the last draft proposal. All concerned were encouraged to submit comments to the CG Sector LIS. The Notice of Proposed Rule Making is scheduled to be published in the October-November 2008 timeframe.
- ERRATA – Prior to adjourning, Joe Riccio asked if there was any other business to be discussed. Mike Ludwig stated that several of the municipal and private dredging projects that held permits and had funding still needed to identify capping material thus, were still on hold. Attempts to coordinate and meet their capping needs seemed to be falling apart. Joe Riccio asked George Wisker, Chuck Beck, Joe Salvatore and Dr. Norm Farris if they could meet with the dredging consultants responsible for the projects mentioned immediately after the CTMC meeting. All agreed.

**VI Date of Next Meeting:**

- It was announced that the next meeting of the CTMC would be at the Fort Trumbull Conference Center in New London, CT at 9:30 AM Wednesday 15 October 2008

**VII Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Tom Dubno seconded by John Johnson and approved unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 11:21 AM.